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SERIAL NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/132,021	08/10/98	SCHNEIDER	J 13172

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EXAMINER	
NGUYEN, T	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3738	

DATE MAILED: 12/10/98

Please find below a communication from the EXAMINER in charge of this application.

Commissioner of Patents

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/132,021

Applicant(s)
SCHNEIDER

Examiner
Tram Nguyen

Group Art Unit
3738



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Aug 10, 1998

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☒ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 2

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

Drawings

1. This application has been filed with informal drawings which are acceptable for examination purposes only. Formal drawings will be required when the application is allowed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claim 6, the examiner does not understand to what the limitation "through irrigation" in line 3 is referring. Does it modify the vessel or the fetal blood? Please rewrite using clear and concise language.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Dardik et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,131,908), for the following reasons:

With respect to claims 1-8, Dardik et al. teaches an umbilical cord (3) in combination with a stent (1) located inside the cord, the cord being lyophilized, or cleaned with agents (see col. 7, lines 3-4) and comprising either a vein or artery (see col. 8, lines 35-46). The cord is additionally preserved (see Example II) so as to be substantially free of fetal blood. The cord is preserved using well known methods of storage, such as containment in a vacuum (see col. 2, lines 41-53). Inherently, human umbilical cords contain both straight and branched segments (see col. 2, lines 53-59), which segments are disclosed as suitable for use with Dardik's invention.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Brendel et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,801,299) teaches methods of lyophilizing umbilical cords for implantation within the human body.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tram Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 308-0804. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mickey Yu, can be reached at (703) 308-2672. The fax phone number for this group is (703) 305-3590.


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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceedings should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0858.



Mickey Yu
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 3700



TAN
December 7, 1998